

Also, a sworn affidavit which Mr. Lucas said had been handed to him by Charles I. Stergle, Editor of the National Farm News, which affidavit is as follows:

"City of Washington) ss.
District of Columbia)

"The affiant, Charles I. Stergle, states that he resides in the City of Washington, District of Columbia; that he was formerly a Member of Congress from the State of New York; that he is now and has been for some years past the Editor of The National Farm News, a newspaper devoted to agricultural interests; and that he is and has been for some time past associated with the Independent Publishing Company of Washington, D.C.

"The affiant states that in October, 1930, he solicited and received from Robert H. Lucas an order for printing for the Independent Publishing Company, with the following agreement:

"The Independent Publishing Company was and is the owner of a cartoon depicting the evils of the barroom. The affiant proposed to send a limited number of sample copies of these cartoons to lists of names to be furnished by said Lucas, with a printed notice that the said cartoons were published and sent by the Independent Publishing Company and that the recipient could order any additional number of said cartoons at Four (\$4.00) Dollars per thousand, by writing the Independent Publishing Company. The price to said Lucas was to be Four (\$4.00) Dollars per thousand for the samples sent out.

"Lists were furnished by said Lucas, covering a number of states. Approximately forty (40) circulars of the cartoon were sent to each name on said lists. It was understood there was to be a reduction in price to said Lucas if the repeat orders justified it. The repeat orders, however, were not sufficient to justify a reduction in price to said Lucas and the price charged to him for said cartoons was thirty-two hundred (\$3,200.00) Dollars.

"On or about October 18th, the affiant received from Robert H. Lucas an order for pamphlets and circulars, to be delivered by express to E. L. Stephenson, at Lincoln, Nebraska. The said order was delivered to the express company on or about October 23rd. The charge for this order was approximately Eight Hundred and Fifty (\$850.00) Dollars.

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"The amount due from said Robert H. Lucas for said printing was not calculated or definitely known until after November 1st, and no bill was presented to said Lucas until after that date. The bill for the aforesaid printing was presented to said Robert H. Lucas on or about November 10th, and amounted to Four Thousand, Two Hundred and Thirty-Seven (\$4,237.27) Dollars and Twenty-Seven Cents. On or about December 3rd, Four Thousand (\$4,000.00) Dollars of said amount was paid by Mr. Lucas and the balance of Two Hundred and Thirty-Seven (\$237.27) Dollars and Twenty-Seven Cents was paid January 2nd, 1931.

"There was no other printing ordered by Mr. Lucas and no other money paid by said Lucas.

(Signed) Chas. I. Stengle

"Subscribed and sworn to before me this 29th day of April, 1931.

(Signed) Harry V. Hayden, Jr.
Notary Public.

In order to make certain of the exact location of Senator George E. Norris for the purpose of interviewing him, Agent 'phoned to John P. Robertson, his Secretary, at Senator Norris' office, and was advised that Agent could contact Senator Norris at McCook, Nebraska; that it would not be necessary for previous arrangements to be made by telegraph for appointment, but that if Agent went to McCook, Nebraska, he would be definitely certain of finding Senator Norris at his home there.

Accordingly, on the afternoon of May 5, 1931, Agent departed for McCook, Nebraska. Agent made contact with Senator Norris in the lobby of the Keystone Hotel, McCook, Nebraska, about 8:45 A.M., Friday, May 8, 1931, and arranged for an interview with Senator Norris on the mezzanine floor of the hotel at 9:45 A.M., at which time interview was had.

Agent advised Senator Norris that he had been instructed by the Department to come to him and secure all facts and information he might have with reference to the matters contained in his letters of March 23 and April 14, 1931, to the Attorney General, with reference to violations of the Corrupt Practice Act and embezzlement by Robert H. Lucas.

-9-

Executive Director of the National Republican Central Committee, as contained therein; or to secure any statement which he might care to make with reference thereto; that Agent had been instructed to make a complete investigation with reference to the same and secure all the facts in connection therewith. Agent produced his credentials as Special Agent of the Bureau, after calling his attention to the fact that he and Senator Sewell had endorsed Agent for this position.

Senator Norris at first stated that there was nothing further to say than that which was contained in said letters. After referring to the report of the Senatorial Expenditures Investigation Committee, in order to refresh Senator Norris' memory fully with reference to the contents of his letters to the Attorney General, Agent handed him photostatic copies of his two letters in question and that part of said report cited by him therein.

Agent asked Senator Norris if he had any further facts to furnish the Department than those contained in the records of the hearings held by the Senator Nye Senatorial Expenditures Committee, the published report of which Agent had with him. Senator Norris replied that he had not, that the same disclosed a plain violation of the law, and that in his opinion no further evidence was necessary.

Whereupon, Agent advised Senator Norris that because of his absence from Washington and thus not convenient to see him again, Agent had called upon Mr. Lucas with reference to these matters contained in said letters; that in his explanation of his failure to make a report of his personal expenditures for the campaign of 1930, Mr. Lucas advised that the expenditures were for printing which had been ordered about the middle of October, 1930; that the amount thereof was uncertain; that no bill was rendered for the same nor any payment made for it; that in his (Mr. Lucas') campaign experience of over twenty years he knew it always had been the practice not to report printing bills contracted in October and bills not rendered and not paid for until after election, until the following election, and that he thought he was fully complying with the law when he filed his report on December 22, 1930, and that he was inclined to believe that Senator Norris had this opinion of the election laws by his (Lucas) only because he was familiar with the laws covering campaign contributions and expenditures; and as an illustration of this Mr. Lucas cited that the Nye Senatorial Expenditures Committee's report of its hearings disclosed that Senator Cutting of New Mexico contributed the sum of \$1,000 to Senator Norris for use in his primary campaign; while Section 208 (Criminal Code, Section 115, as amended) seems to make the same clearly a violation of the law; and that the same report disclosed a report of primary campaign expenditures for Senator Norris made in September, 1930, more than one month following the primary election, reporting printing and other expenditures which were

contracted for during the campaign but not paid for until after the primary election, the latter being a similar situation to his own.

Senator Norris apparently was ignorant of the provisions of Section 208 of the Criminal Code, heretofore referred to, and Agent perceiving his unfamiliarity with it, at the Senator's request, furnished him the title thereof and handed him a copy of the same, which the Senator read.

Senator Norris' immediate reaction to the explanation as given by Mr. Lucas, especially that part referring to the contribution of Senator Cutting to his primary campaign, was that it was a threat by the Department, whereupon Agent assured him that it was not; that it was neither a threat by the Department nor intended as a threat by Mr. Lucas; that it was cited by Mr. Lucas and he so stated, only to illustrate that undoubtedly the Senator was unfamiliar with the election laws governing these matters and that he believed it was done without intent on the Senator's part to violate knowingly any law, this simply expressing the attitude of Mr. Lucas and not to be taken as an expression of any opinion by or attitude of the Department. The Senator charged that this Agent had come to investigate him rather than to investigate the violations of the Federal Statutes by Mr. Lucas, as disclosed by the report of the Nye Senatorial Expenses Committee. Agent assured him of the contrary and that his instructions were to investigate thoroughly those matters referred to by the Senator in his two letters to the Attorney General.

Senator Norris further stated as follows:

"The primary campaign contribution from Senator Cutting or by any other person was never solicited by me and all money received from any source I turned over to Mr. Robertson, my Secretary. Some checks received were returned to the senders, but all that were accepted and all expenditures made were properly accounted for by Secretary Robertson and no effort was made nor intent to cover up or conceal anything in connection with either my primary or election campaign. There was no intent to violate any law. What I did in accepting receipts from any and all sources was in the open, was accounted for with no intent to conceal, and I do not feel that I did anything wrong, while Mr. Lucas' activities and expenditures were all covered up and concealed and were not brought out in the open until forced out by the Committee. I believe the methods used by Mr. Lucas with the intent to defeat me were dishonorable and

reprehensible. I look upon them as being most unethical rather than as illegal, and while he (Mr. Lucas) violated the law, I do not know that he knew he was violating it."

Senator Norris in discussing this particular matter referred to the difficult effort it had been for the Senatorial Expenditures Committee to uncover Mr. Lucas' connection with the printing matter sent out by the Independent Publishing Company, or who was responsible for it, and that not only Mr. Lucas was involved in this matter but others, as evidence of which he referred to the fact (as disclosed by the testimony of William F. Murray on page 351 of said Hearings) that one of the special investigators for said Committee discovered one of the employees of the National Republican Central Committee leaving the Committee's room when Charles I. Mangle of the Independent Publishing Company disclosed that Robert H. Lucas was the party who had placed the order for said printing with the Independent Publishing Company, and that upon said employee not being able to locate Mr. Lucas at his office, he immediately turned to the White House.

Senator Norris also stated that he has no personal malice towards Mr. Lucas, as he felt it was probably done in the heat of the campaign, but vigorously denounced the methods used by Mr. Lucas and others to defeat him and thought if the truth were known it would disclose others higher up were involved; that he did not want to believe that Mr. Lucas acted with the knowledge of the President, but only one incident made him think otherwise, and that was "that these acts and the methods employed against me (Senator Norris) were never condemned by the leaders of the Party." Senator Norris further advised Agent that he didn't expect the Department to prosecute Mr. Lucas; "that I (Senator Norris) thought Attorney General Mitchell would ask me to come up and see him, but I didn't get his letter acknowledging receipt of mine (of March 23) until a day or so before leaving Washington"; that he realized the embarrassment to the Attorney General in being asked to prosecute Mr. Lucas and that he would have been glad to have gone over the entire matter with the Attorney General, but that he had not expressed any desire to take the matter up with him. Senator Norris also said that if Attorney General Mitchell had called him to his office and said to him that he (the Attorney General) was placed in an embarrassing position by him (Senator Norris) in asking him to prosecute a man (Mr. Lucas) placed in this position at the request of the President, he would have said he fully realized it and would have suggested to the Attorney General that the matter be dropped.

Senator Norris felt that the actions of Mr. Lucas in making every effort to defeat him as a Republican candidate for Senator in the 1930 election while serving as Executive Director of the Republican National Committee were in ill taste; that he had no objections to Mr. Lucas or any one else opposing him, if in the open and by fair methods, as that was his or their privilege, but that if Mr. Lucas desired to oppose him he should have resigned from his position on the National Committee, whose duty it was to seek the election of all the candidates of that Party.

He further stated that there was an urgent demand and necessary need that political campaign methods should be rectified and changed so that those methods employed in this case could not occur again, and he believed that the report of the Senatorial Expenditures Committee would lead to this result.

During the conversation with reference to the contribution of Senator Cutting, Senator Norris stated that he was ready to answer for all his acts; that if the Department wished to prosecute him for accepting this contribution there were lots of others he would ask be prosecuted also, which might prove very embarrassing to the Department and to the Administration. He also stated that he holds no resentment, as he believes life is too short to secure revenge or desire to prosecute an enemy.

At the beginning of the interview Senator Norris advised he had no other facts with reference to said violations called to the attention of the Attorney General by him than disclosed by the report of the Senatorial Expenditures Committee. However, later he stated he did have but did not care to disclose them at this time, in view of the attitude of the Department; that the said report disclosed sufficient facts to insure successful prosecution, and that the Department and this Agent could make such investigation as they saw fit.

Senator Norris asked Agent if he were investigating Mr. Seymour or others with reference to their acts during the primary campaign, whereupon Agent advised that his instructions at this time were to see him with reference to the violations of Mr. Lucas, as charged by him, and thoroughly investigate them, and that Agent could not further speak for the Department.

b7c
Senator Norris also asked if Agent knew whether former Governor McKelvie had been successful in securing a Federal appointment for [REDACTED] to which Agent replied that he had no knowledge thereof.

Several times during the aforesaid interview with Senator Morris the Senator stated that he knew the Department would not prosecute Mr. Lucas in reference to his complaint when he wrote the letters in question to the Attorney General. Senator Morris stated that he thought he had a "cinch" against Mr. Lucas in proving the violation of the Corrupt Practice Act by Mr. Lucas.

Upon inquiry by Senator Morris, Agent advised him that he (Agent) had arrived at McCook, Nebraska, on the morning of May 8 at 7:45 A.M. and that he expected to immediately return to Washington on the evening Burlington train leaving McCook at 11 P.M.

While Agent was at McCook he did not make contact with anyone with whom he was personally acquainted. Agent had several personal friends at that place.

Agent arrived at Washington, D.C., at 6:35 P.M. on May 10, 1931, and on the morning of May 11, after reporting the results of his interview to Mr. Hughes of the Bureau of Investigation, Agent conferred with Mr. Nugent Dodds, Assistant Attorney General, and read the results of Agent's investigation to him as herein recorded.

At the request of Mr. Dodds Agent made an effort to verify the filing of the campaign expenditures report by Robert H. Lucas with the Secretary of the United States Senate, which report was said to have been filed with the Senate Secretary under date of December 22, 1930, by Mr. Lucas. Upon calling at the office of the Secretary of the United States Senate on the second floor of the Capitol, it was ascertained that there was much confusion in the Secretary's office because the office was being completely renovated and painted, and that the records of said office were not in their customary place. Agent contacted Mr. Guy Ives, Printing Clerk in charge of the Secretary's Office, which during the period of renovation is in the office of the Senate Committee on Military Affairs. Mr. Ives made an effort to locate the report in question, as filed by Mr. Lucas, but after considerable time was unable to do so. Considerable search was made in the basement, where many of their records have been placed during the overhauling and renovation of the Senate Secretary's office. Mr. Ives finally advised that he was unable to locate said report; that it would probably be necessary for him to wire Harold Hafford, 2905 Washington Boulevard, Indianapolis, Indiana, the Senate Filing Clerk, with reference thereto. However, John Crockett, Chief Clerk of the Senate Secretary's office, was up in the country and could not be reached by telephone, but that he expected to have contact with Mr. Crockett on the morning of May 13 and would endeavor to ascertain where the record of the filing of

the report and the report itself could be found, and that upon failure to secure this information from Chief Clerk Crockett, he would endeavor to secure the same by telegram to Filing Clerk Hafford at Indianapolis, Indiana. Before making this statement, Mr. Ives made inquiry at the office of the Clerk of the House of Representatives if said report in question was on file in that office, to which they replied that it was not; that they had no record thereof.

For the information of the Bureau and the Department, the aforesaid report in question of Robert H. Lucas, as filed by him on December 22, 1930, with the Secretary of the Senate, is copied on page 919 of the printed report of the record of the hearings of the Senatorial Campaign Expenditures Committee. A further effort will be made to verify the filing of this report with the Secretary of the Senate, and a copy of the same will be secured.

Senator Norris referred to the different various attacks that had been made on him by members of the "stand pat" or conservative section of the Republican Party, and he complained that all of these attacks and the opposition of the "Old Guard" had been aimed exclusively at him, while Senator Borah and other members of this same independent group had not been subjected to such attacks as had been made upon him.

Awaiting further instructions from the Bureau, this matter is pending.

PENDING

April 24, 1931.

Hon. Milton D. Mitchell,
Attorney General,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Mr. Robert E. Lamm filed with me as Secretary
of the United States Senate on December 22, 1930,
the report of Comptroller-General for the 1930
session.

At the time of filing this report, Mr. Lamm
inquired of me as to the proper place for filing.

I informed him that personal expense accounts of
Senators for the Senate were filed with me, and
that in my opinion this was the proper place for
him to file his expense account.

I am, yours,

Very truly,

John O. Thompson

Secretary, U. S. Senate.

City of Washington)
District of Columbia) ss

The affiant, Charles L. Stangle, states that he resides in the City of Washington, District of Columbia; that he was formerly a Member of Congress from the State of New York; that he is now and has been for some years past the Editor of The National Farm News, a newspaper devoted to agricultural interests; and that he is and has been for some time past associated with the Independent Publishing Company of Washington, D. C.

The affiant states that in October, 1930, he solicited and received from Robert E. Lucas an order for printing for the Independent Publishing Company, with the following agreement:

The Independent Publishing Company was and is the owner of a cartoon depicting the evils of the barroom. The affiant promised to send a limited number of sample copies of these cartoons to lists of names to be furnished by said Lucas, with a printed notice that the said cartoons were published and sent by the Independent Publishing Company and that the recipient could order any additional number of said cartoons at Four (\$4.00) Dollars per thousand, by writing the Independent Publishing Company. The price to said Lucas was to be Four (\$4.00) Dollars per thousand for the samples sent out.

Lists were furnished by said Lucas, covering a number of states. Approximately forty (40) circulars of the cartoon were sent to each name on said lists. It was understood there was to be a reduction in price to said Lucas if the repeat orders justified it. The repeat orders, however, were not sufficient to justify a reduction in price to said Lucas and the price charged to him for said cartoons was Thirty Two (\$3,200.00) Hundred Dollars.

On or about October 18th, the affiant received from Robert E. Lucas an order for pamphlets and circulars, to be delivered by express to E. L. Stephens, at Lincoln, Nebraska. The said order was delivered to the express company on or about October 23rd. The charge for this order was approximately Eight Hundred and Fifty (\$850.00) Dollars.

The amount due from said Robert H. Lucas for said printing was not calculated or definitely known until after November 1st, and no bill was presented to said Lucas until after that date. The bill for the aforesaid printing was presented to said Robert H. Lucas on or about November 10th, and amounted to Four Thousand, Two Hundred and Thirty-Seven (\$4,237.27) Dollars and Twenty-Seven Cents. On or about December 3rd, Four Thousand (\$4,000.00) Dollars of said amount was paid by Mr. Lucas and the balance of Two Hundred and Thirty-Seven (\$237.27) Dollars and Twenty-Seven Cents was paid January 2nd, 1931.

There was no other printing ordered by Mr. Lucas and no other money paid by said Lucas.

Chas. J. Stengle

Witness

Witness

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 29th day of April, 1931.

Harry V. Hayden, Jr.
Notary Public.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

RECEIVED

VWH:TAM

U. S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

May 22, 1931

MAY 22 1931 PM

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

56 158

With reference to the case of ROBERT M. LUCAS, the special matter upon which Special Agent J. R. Green is now engaged, I desire to advise that Agent Green has been awaiting further instructions for the past four days, before proceeding with said investigation, having rendered a report under date of May 19, covering interviews with Robert M. Lucas and Senator Norris, and having been requested by Mr. Dodds to take no further action other than to review the records, pending additional advice from him after he had an opportunity to consult the Attorney General.

I desire to advise that I have made contact with Mr. Dodds each one of the four days past, and again talked with Mr. Dodds yesterday morning relative to the necessity of releasing Green at the earliest practicable date. Mr. Dodds stated this morning that he prepared a memorandum for the Attorney General and sent the same to the Attorney General on the 20th instant; that he expects to hear momentarily from the Attorney General, but that he hesitates to press him for a reply; and that he will advise me promptly upon receipt of advice from the Attorney General. In the meantime, Special Agent Green is engaged in looking up data in connection with his antitrust investigation of the National Biscuit Company. I will keep in touch with Mr. Dodds, and advise you if there is any further delay.

RECORDED
JUN 2 1931

V. W. Hughes.

P.S. I have again inquired this morning but no answer has been received by Mr. Dodds from the Attorney General. Agent Green however is engaged on the case at the Capitol.

We cannot hold Green here indefinitely as our Omaha office is in bad shape. 5/24/31 D. E. H.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

U. S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

VWH:FBS

May 26, 1931.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

MAY 27 1931 PM

56-158

With further reference to the complaint made to the Department by Senator Norris, relative to ROBERT H. LUCAS, I desire to advise that I have kept in touch with Mr. Nugent Dodds from day to day but he has not yet received word from the Attorney General as to what, if any, further investigation is desired.

In talking to Mr. Dodds this morning, I told him that it was necessary that Agent Green report to his office at Omaha, where he has a number of pressing matters pending, but Mr. Dodds requested that Agent Green not return to Omaha for several days, as he felt quite sure the Attorney General would advise him within that time as to the further handling of the matter.

In the meantime, I have instructed Agent Green to report to the local office at Washington, D.C., for general assignment, pending word from Mr. Dodds.

Respectfully,

V. W. Hughes
V. W. Hughes.

RECORDED
JUN 2 1931

56-158-4

*This is quite unreasonable.
We are so short of men any way.*
5/29/31 J. C. N.

MEMPHIS.

June 15, 1931.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

b7c
Special Agent J. A. Green returned to Washington this morning from Tennessee where he has been conducting an investigation of charges of malfeasance in office on the part of [REDACTED]. Special Agent Green developed no evidence to substantiate the charges. He is today preparing a report covering said investigation.

With reference to the special investigation of ROBERT H. LUCAS, Executive Director of the Republican National Committee, upon which Special Agent Green was engaged at the time that he proceeded to Nashville, I desire to advise that I conferred with Mr. Rodde several times inquiring whether this investigation should be continued and was last informed by Mr. Rodde on the 11th instant that he had had no word from the Attorney General since transmitting the report of Special Agent Green to him and felt that Special Agent Green should be held at Washington no longer because if further inquiry is desired, they can later call upon him.

In view of this word from Mr. Rodde, I will instruct Special Agent Green to return to his headquarters at Omaha when he has completed his report of the Tennessee investigation, which should be accomplished not later than tomorrow, the 16th instant.

Respectfully,

V. W. Hughes.

56-158

RECORDED
JUN 17 31
JUN 15
56-158

From
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
To
OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

Mr. Nathan	_____
Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Cowley	_____
Mr. Edwards	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Lester	_____
Chief Clerk	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____

The Attorney General
The Solicitor General
Assistant Attorney General Stephens
Assistant Attorney General Noonan
Assistant Attorney General Wideman
Assistant Attorney General Broome
Assistant Attorney General Blair
Assistant Solicitor General Nathan
Mr. Stewart, Administrative Assistant
Mr. Lester, Director of Investigation
Mr. Tamm, Director, Bureau of Prisons
Mr. Nathan
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Holtzoff
Mr. Gardner, General Agent and Chief Clerk
Mr. Glendon
Mr. Sornborger, Appointment Clerk
Mr. Moore, Mail and Files
Mr. Caldwell
Miss Barrard
Mrs. Eads
Mr. Boyd
Miss Thomas

*Not do
Lynn Hall*

56-158-6
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 6 1934 P.M.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
RECORDED
INDEXED
FILE

JUL 12 1934

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SENATE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 25, 1934.

My dear Mr. Attorney General:

I am inclosing a copy of a letter which I have today sent to Honorable John F. Cordeau, of McCook, Nebraska, which is self-explanatory. The man who was sent to McCook, as narrated, was as I recall a man by the name of Green. I am wondering whether, if the proper examination is made of this man, any disclosures might result which would assist me in trying to locate these stolen insurance policies. If Green is still in the Secret Service of the United States, I wish an examination of him might be made by some competent person. If he is not in the service, I hope that his papers and documents, if he left any such, may be made over with a view of ascertaining whether there is any possibility of his visit to McCook having anything to do with this theft.

If he is no longer in the service, could not some person examine him with a view of securing any possible clue to this theft?

Very truly yours,

G. W. MORRIS

Honorable Homer Cummings
The Attorney General
Department of Justice.

1 Inclosure.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

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GEORGE W. BRADSHAW, JR., CHAIRMAN
 WILLIAM E. DUNN, SEN. D.
 CHARLES E. DUNN, SEN. D.
 FREDERICK A. GILLET, SEN. D.
 ARTHUR H. HARRISON, SEN. D.
 JOHN A. BLAND, SEN. D.
 FREDERICK STEVENSON, SEN. D.
 CHARLES W. WATKINS, SEN. D.
 SAMUEL D. WATKINS, SEN. D.
 FREDERICK WATKINS, SEN. D.
 JOHN P. ROBERTSON, CLERK

HENRY P. ARTHUR, JR., CLERK
 THOMAS A. BAKER, CLERK
 THOMAS A. BAKER, CLERK
 WILLIAM H. BAKER, CLERK
 HENRY D. STEVENSON, CLERK
 C. F. DILL, CLERK
 SAM E. BRATTON, CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY



N/L

McCook, Nebraska,
 May 9, 1931.

My dear Mr. Attorney General:

Yesterday, May 8, 1931, your Mr. Joseph R. Green, a representative of the Bureau of Investigation, called on me ostensibly to inquire whether I had any additional evidence or facts with relation to the political activities of Mr. Robert Lucas. It developed at the very beginning that Mr. Green did not expect to get anything from me in regard to Mr. Lucas. It was quite evident, as I told him to start with, that I had no other evidence; that the entire record was in your hands. It became apparent at the very beginning that he was here for an entirely different purpose. He submitted to me a copy of a statute with the perfectly apparent purpose of conveying the information to me that the Department of Justice was seeking evidence to secure my indictment for a violation of Section 208 of the Criminal Code.

Mr. Green had with him and exhibited to me copies of my letters which I had written to you in regard to Mr. Lucas. It was quite evident to me that if you wanted to confer with me about Mr. Lucas' case you would have done so before I left Washington. I wrote you in regard to it long before I left the city. Moreover, on the face of it, it was likewise apparent that I had submitted to you all the evidence which I had and there was no occasion whatever for sending a Government official from Washington to McCook, Nebraska, on a mission of that kind.

In brief, this particular Section which Mr. Green has cited makes it unlawful for any person drawing a salary from the Federal Government to receive from any other person drawing a salary from the Federal Government any political contribution; and he called my attention to the fact that Senator Cutting had contributed a thousand dollars to my primary campaign. He did not even claim that I had expended it. I told him what the facts were that Senator Cutting had made the contribution; that I not only had not solicited that contribution, but that I had not solicited any contribution from anyone and

The Attorney General #2
May 9, 1951.

that I had not expended anyone's contribution when the same was made. I did have knowledge of various contributions which were made and I have seen the reports which were filed, in which all the contributions were listed. I called his attention to the fact that all this was of public record; that a record of all these contributions and all these expenditures was on file, not only with the Secretary of the Senate but with the Secretary of the State of Nebraska; that such record had been on file all the time; that no contribution was secret and that therefore there was no occasion to take it up with me. My affidavit was on file as well as the affidavit of the person who handled the contributions and the expenditures in my campaign. I told Mr. Green of all these things and, of course, they were all perfectly well known to him because I presume he had examined all these reports. I should be glad to have you send your representative to my office in Washington, where my Secretary is in charge, and where I presume copies of all these reports can be obtained. I invite your consideration of them. I also invite you or your representative to go to my office and examine my private letter file, where all the letters I received and where copies of all the replies I sent will be exhibited to you.

I want it distinctly understood that I make no apology for what I have done. If I have violated the law and you wish to prosecute me, go ahead. If the object of Mr. Green, in disclosing these facts to me, was to close my mouth in any regard, I want to announce that the object has failed. I say this knowing what the consequences may be. I know what it is to have against me the great secret service of the United States, carrying on its operations at public expense without limit and having the active backing not only of the Attorney General but of the President himself. I know that you can make me trouble, perhaps disgrace me at least in the eyes of political enemies, but in the face of it all I invite you to proceed. I realize the influence of a great Department like yours, backed by the influence of the President of the United States, can perhaps secure indictment where there is in reality no guilt whatever. I know the power that these influences have over juries, the selection of juries, of judges and of courts, and I realize how difficult it would be, if not futile, for me to fight such a power, with such unlimited resources, when it is determined, regardless of justice, to bring disgrace or

May 3, 1931.

downfall to an ordinary citizen. But I would rather be subject to all this expense, this trouble, this annoyance, this humiliation, perhaps this disgrace, than for one moment to close my lips when I thought I ought to speak. If you want to use your great office for any purpose of this kind, again I invite you to go ahead.

Of course, you would not want to be wit in the attitude of using the power of your great office to prosecute a technical violation of law, where no motive or any attempt to injure any person or violate any law was shown, unless you prosecuted all people who were likewise similarly guilty. In other words, I do not believe you would like to be placed in the attitude of prosecuting me, especially where it was shown in advance that I had done no injury or harm, when it was perfectly apparent to you that thousands of other persons had pursued the same course that I had pursued.

It is not charged or believed that I ever solicited a penny for my campaign. Neither is it charged or believed that I ever disbursed illegally or dishonestly any money contributed by any person to my campaign. It is not charged or believed that I concealed any of the facts connected with the financial operations or any other operations pertaining to my campaign. The technical charge would be that while receiving a salary from the United States I had knowledge that another person receiving a salary from the United States had made a contribution to the primary campaign where I was the candidate to be benefited. It is not charged that the contribution was used for any unlawful purpose or that it was kept secret, or that the person making the contribution had any ulterior motive in making it.

If your office desires to prosecute cases of this kind you have a stupendous job on your hands. You will have to prosecute practically every elective Federal official in the United States, and that will include President Hoover himself. I presume that in President Hoover's campaign many thousands of persons made contributions in his behalf who were drawing salaries from the United States. In most of the cases perhaps President Hoover had no knowledge of the making of such contributions, and in that respect alone his case might differ from mine, but in many cases he did have knowledge. For instance, the records will disclose that

The Attorney General -
May 6, 1931.

Secretary Mellon made a large contribution to President Hoover's campaign, and to charge the President with ignorance of it would be to charge him with being ignorant of the importance instances which occur in public life - an ignorance which no one will impute, either to President Hoover or to hundreds of other important Federal officials.

Moreover, if you are engaging upon a warfare of this kind, you will have to prosecute my opponent, because the records of the Senate Investigating Committee disclose that ex-Governor McKelvie, the President's appointee on the Federal Farm Board, testified that he made a contribution of \$10,000 for the benefit of my opponent, and he likewise testified that this contribution came from his salary as a member of the Federal Farm Board - a salary paid out of the Treasury of the United States - bringing the case clearly within the limits of the statute which your representative exhibited to me yesterday.

I have, and I think the people of the United States have a definite knowledge that in my campaign, both in the primary and before the general election, everything in my behalf was conducted openly and above board. Under my definite instructions, everyone connected with it was particularly admonished to do nothing dishonest, dishonorable, or in any way illegal. We won a great victory, after a hard struggle, honestly conducted, against great odds, immense contributions from those representing special interests and those who used all imaginable false and dishonorable methods. If it is your determination to use the immense power under your control to prosecute honest people for imaginary and trumped up charges of illegality while closing your eyes to some of the most disgraceful and dishonest trickery which has ever been perpetrated in the history of the country, and to use this great power to injure me as the victim of the political spite and hatred of the present Administration, I can only do my best to defend myself against this injustice and to carry the truth to those who, after all, will be the final judges.

Very truly yours,

G. H. Norris

The Honorable
William D. Mitchell,
The Attorney General.

H/K

June 25, 1934

Honorable John F. Gordon
McCook
Nebraska.

Dear John:

I have been covered up with my official business and it is only occasionally that I have time to think of any of my private affairs. You will remember that I had a conversation with you about my safe which was in your office and about its removal to the office of the White Line Transfer Company. There was some dispute as to whether this safe was moved directly from your old office in the old bank building to your new office, or whether it was removed to the transfer company's office. The officials of the White Line Transfer Company, as well as yourself, were of the opinion that the removal took place at the time you moved your law office, and that the safe was moved to the transfer company directly from your old law office. This, I thought, and still think, was a mistake. I believe the safe was removed to your new office. It was in the front room. I went there some occasion and opened the safe and put some additional papers in it. I have a distinct recollection of this occurrence. At that time, all my papers, so far as I could see, were intact. There were also a few articles of jewelry in it, such as a couple of gold-mounted pens and pen holders and some other things - more or less family trinkets. The total value, however, of anything in the safe was very small.

It was for this reason that I did not lock the safe. I never kept it locked. I remember telling you to use the safe in your business, if you had any occasion to do so.

There were quite a number of political documents in it, some of them having to do with my last contest for the judgeship, insurance policies, and some other papers, but nothing of any value to my person, except myself.

56-158-6

Rev. Jno. F. Cordell

Page 2

6/25/74

The misunderstanding as to whether the safe was moved directly to your office, or whether it was moved directly to the transfer office is not in and of itself material. That misunderstanding might well occur in the matter. When I discovered the safe in the transfer office, I likewise discovered that everything in it was taken out. I was assured at the transfer office that there was nothing in it when they received it. The fact that I had not examined the safe or opened it for a year or two makes it impossible for me to tell when these papers were taken out of the safe. There was nothing in it which I would have had any objection to having made public, although the public had no concern in regard to the contents.

The loss of these insurance policies has caused me no end of trouble. I had one policy of a face value of \$2,000 and a paid-up value of something over \$1,600 in the New York Life; two paid-up policies in the Equitable Assurance Society of New York; one paid-up policy in the Massachusetts Mutual Insurance Company of Springfield, Massachusetts. These policies amounted, in the aggregate to about \$5,000 and were payable to my estate upon my death. They were all paid up and had been for a great many years. I had two insurance policies in the New York Mutual which were likewise paid up. They were payable to my daughters, Hazel and Marian, respectively. I originally took them out when I still lived in Beaver City. They were both on the twenty-payment plan, and the premiums were expensive, because it was provided in each one of these policies that the sum of \$200 annually should be paid to the beneficiary named therein as long as she lived. I had another paid-up policy in favor of my daughter, Gertrude. This policy was paid in ten annual installments. It was in the Northwestern Mutual of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. I took this policy out after I came to McCook. It was likewise an expensive policy because it provided for the payment to the beneficiary of \$200 annually, so long as she lived, and was similar in that respect to the policy for each one of the other two girls.

Q Q F I

Hon. John F. Cerdical

Page 3

2/25/34.

These policies were all stolen out of the safe, but I cannot say within a year or two's time when this occurred. Certainly, these policies were of no value to any person; no one could recover on them at my death, unless by the forging of my name, changing the beneficiary. When I discovered the theft of these insurance policies, I took the matter up with the various insurance companies and although my correspondence with them has been voluminous on the subject, there is so much red tape and what seem to me unnecessary requirements that at the present time I have no definite understanding as to these policies, with the exception of two.

I realize that the beneficiary could recover, as a matter of law, under any of them, but I do not want to die with the knowledge that these beneficiaries are going to be required in every case to engage in a lawsuit. I am anxious to have you try to find out how the policies disappeared and who secured them. The only clue I have is that the Department of Justice sent to McCook a detective who was interested in finding out or discovering something that might be used as a 'pull' to limit some of my political activities. Before I had left Washington, I had written to the Attorney General, Mr. Mitchell, and had asked him why he did not prosecute Mr. Robert Lucas, Chairman of the Republican Executive Committee in the Hoover campaign. I sent Mr. Mitchell, the Attorney General, a copy of Mr. Lucas' testimony before the Nye Senatorial Investigating Committee, taken a few days after the election, in which, as I looked at it, he had clearly admitted under oath that he was liable for prosecution under a federal statute. The Attorney General did not answer my letter concerning this for some time.

Upon my return to Nebraska, this employee of the Department of Justice in the Secret Service came to McCook. The subject, as he stated it to me, was to ascertain what other evidence I had against Mr. Lucas. I know, of course, that this was only an excuse, and stated to him

Mr. John F. Cordell

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6/25/31.

frankly that it was perfectly silly of the Attorney General to send a man all the way from Washington to Woodcock, to find out whether I had any other evidence, when I had in my letter submitted evidence of Mr. Lucas' testimony to the Attorney General. This employee cited a statute which he had written out in longhand, under which he claimed I had accepted a contribution from Senator Cutting of \$1,000, to be used in my Nebraska campaign for reelection to the United States Senate. I knew of course this was a subterfuge and was only done for the purpose of trying to prevent me from taking any further steps in the prosecution of Lucas. I told him so at the time. I regarded the object of his visit as something entirely different from the one he suggested. It was quite evident that he was on a 'fishing' trip, trying to find something against me.

Now, I do not think that he himself went into the safe. My own idea is that he employed some one to do this and to have this person bring him everything that was in my safe so that he could examine the papers and see whether there was anything there that he desired. It would have been a very easy matter to have gone into your office and removed all the papers from the safe. And, for that matter, it would have been just as easy to have gone into the White Line Transfer Company's office and taken the papers out there. I am inclined to believe the papers were taken out while the safe was still in your office, because they told me at the White Line Transfer office that the safe was absolutely empty when they got it.

I am writing this to you, John, with the idea of getting your assistance in finding these stolen papers. Of course, I do not suppose that you know anything about it, but it has occurred to me that when I have told you the whole story as above outlined, you may be able to refresh your memory about this safe and may recall some clue which, upon investigation, may lead to the discovery of the stolen papers.

There are other reasons why I think this governmental detective may have been instrumental in this theft. I happen to know very confidentially that the Hoover Administration tried several other plans to stop me from

Hon. John F. Cordell

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6/25/34.

supporting Roosevelt in the presidential campaign. There were some of them which I thought foolish and paid but little attention to them. It never occurred to me that anyone would carry such a matter as far as I fear it was carried in this case. I may be entirely wrong about all this, but I am forced to this conclusion because of the fact that there seems to be no other possible explanation of this episode and no one on earth that I know of who had any interest in finding out anything which they thought they might find out from a secret examination of the papers in my possession except the politicians who were combined against me and wanted to punish me for what I had done and was about to do politically. Mr. Lucas did so many disreputable things here in Washington, and so many things were attempted, originating at least as close as private secretaries to the President himself, that I have reached the conclusion that this is the only possible explanation.

With kindest personal regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

/s/ G. W. Morris.

Postal Telegraph

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Commercial
Cables



All America
Cable

Mackay

Radio

Check All the Telegram, Cablegram, Radiogram and other messages received by mail or otherwise in the office	
No.	Day Letter
No.	Night Letter
No.	Day Radiogram
No.	Night Radiogram
No.	Day Cablegram
No.	Night Cablegram
No.	Day Radiogram
No.	Night Radiogram
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No.	Night Cablegram

CB449 111 GOVT COLLECT

SU OMAHA NEBR 2 412P

DIRECTOR

DIV OF INVESTIGATION US DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHN DC

REPHONE AGENT GREEN ARRIVED MCCOOK NEBRASKA SEVEN FORTY FIVE AM
WAY EIGHT NINETEEN THREE ONE LEFT SAME DAY ELEVEN PM FOR WASHINGTON
REGISTERED AT KEYSTONE HOTEL MCCOOK AND CONTACTED

Mr. Nathan	
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Tamm	

200 / MORRIS IN HOTEL AND INTERVIEWED HIM ON MEZZAINE FLOOR NO ONE
ELSE PRESENT DURING INTERVIEW WHICH LASTED ONE HOUR GREEN
STAYED IN HIS ROOM MOST OF DAY TO AVOID MEETING OTHER PERSONS AS

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

JUL 10 1934

7/10/34
7/12/34
RECEIVED
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
NATHAN

RECORDED
56-158

July 3, 1934

RECORDED

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL,
MR. STANLEY.

I beg to refer to your informal memorandum, transmitting a letter addressed to the Attorney General by Senator Morris, dated June 25th, and a copy of a letter addressed by Senator Morris to the Honorable John F. Cordeal of McCook, Nebraska.

I note the letter to Mr. Cordeal is with reference to the loss of certain insurance policies belonging to Senator Morris from a safe which had been in the office of Mr. Cordeal at McCook, Nebraska and which had been moved to the office of a transfer company there. I note that the letter from Senator Morris to the Attorney General further refers to "a man by the name of Green" who was sent to McCook for the purpose of interviewing him, and suggests that "if Green is still in the Secret Service of the United States, I wish an examination of him might be made by some competent person". The foregoing reference is to Special Agent Joseph K. Green of this Division, who is now assigned to the Omaha, Nebraska Office.

With regard to the incident at McCook, Nebraska, the Division's file indicates that under date of March 23, 1931 Senator Morris addressed former Attorney General Mitchell, calling his attention to evidence taken by the Senate Committee on Senatorial Campaign Expenditures in 1930 and 1931, in which it was disclosed that "Mr. Lucas clearly violated Section 306 of the United States Statutes in failing to make the proper report provided for under the law", it being further stated that it seemed to the writer important that violations of the law such as were clearly shown in this case should be promptly prosecuted. This was acknowledged by Attorney General Mitchell and a further communication was addressed to him on April 14, 1931 with reference to this charge. The Lucas referred to was Robert H. Lucas, Executive Director of the Republican National Committee.

There appears in the file a notation, initialed by Mr. August Dodge, former Assistant Attorney General, to the effect that

Mr. Stanley.

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7/1/34

he believed Special Agent Green would be a good man for this assignment. Special Agent Green was accordingly instructed to proceed to Washington and, according to the file, on the morning of May 1, 1931 a conference was had with Mr. August Dodds relative to the charges of Senator Norris against Robert H. Lucas, at which time Mr. Dodds turned over to Mr. Hughes (formerly employed in an administrative capacity in this Division and now deceased) correspondence which had been received. At a further conference with Mr. Dodds on the same date, Special Agent Green was instructed to inaugurate the inquiry by first calling upon Mr. Lucas, and to then interview Senator Norris before conducting any further investigation in the field.

A report rendered by Special Agent Green indicates an interview with Mr. Lucas in which he admitted campaign expenditures in various states, as charged by Senator Norris, but ~~admitted~~ that he had fully complied with the law in connection therewith, and stated that Senator Norris had accepted a campaign contribution in violation of the Federal statutes, and further sets forth an interview with Senator Norris by him (Special Agent Green) at McCook, Nebraska. Agent Green stated that in order to make certain of the location of Senator Norris he telephoned his secretary, Mr. John F. Robertson, and was advised he could contact Senator Norris at McCook, Nebraska. Green states that he contacted Senator Norris in the lobby of the Keystone Hotel at McCook on Friday morning, May 2, 1931, and arranged for an interview with him shortly thereafter. He further states that he advised the Senator that he had been instructed by the Department to secure all facts and information he might have with reference to his letters to the Attorney General in connection with the charges made by him, and showed the Senator his credentials. Senator Norris at first stated there was nothing further to say, other than the information obtained in said letters, and that the report of the Nye Senatorial Expenditures Committee disclosed a plain violation of law. Agent Green told Senator Norris of his previous call upon Mr. Lucas and of Mr. Lucas' statement in connection with the charges, also of the counter charge of Mr. Lucas in connection with the alleged receipt by Senator Norris of a contribution, referred to in the foregoing. Agent Green's report states that Senator Norris' immediate reaction to the latter matter was that it was a threat by the Department, and the report further stated that Senator Norris charged that Agent Green had come to investigate him rather than to investigate the violation of the Federal statutes by Mr. Lucas. A copy of the report submitted by Special Agent Green is transmitted to you for such value or interest as it might possess.

Mr. Stanley.

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7/3/34

A number of efforts were then made to secure further instructions from former Assistant Attorney General Dodds, reflecting his wishes as to any further action he desired taken. Agent Green in the meantime returning to Washington. A memorandum in the file, dated May 26, 1931, indicates that Mr. Dodds was again contacted and told that it was necessary that Agent Green report to his office at Omaha, where there were a number of pressing matters pending, and Mr. Dodds stated that he felt sure the Attorney General would advise him in a short time as to his desires. Under date of June 15, 1931, Mr. Hughes advised me by memorandum that he had again inquired of Mr. Dodds as to his desires in the matter and the latter had stated that he had no word from the Attorney General since transmitting the report of Special Agent Green to him and he felt Special Agent Green should be held at Washington no longer because if further inquiry was desired they could call upon him. Agent Green was then instructed to return to his headquarters at Omaha.

The file shows a letter sent by Senator Morris to former Attorney General Mitchell from McCook, Nebraska, under date of May 9, 1931, in which the Senator stated, referring to the interview of Agent Green, that "it was quite evident, as I told him to start with, that I have no other evidence, and the entire record was in your hands. It became apparent at the very beginning that he was here for an entirely different purpose. He submitted to me a copy of a statute for the apparent purpose of conveying information to me that the Department of Justice was seeking evidence to secure my indictment for a violation of Section 204 of the Criminal Code". Senator Morris indicated his belief that if the Attorney General desired to confer with him about the Lucas case he would have done so before he, the Senator, left Washington. The Senator's letter then goes into further detail with regard to the allegation that he had been guilty of a violation of law in connection with campaign contributions.

I have gone rather fully into this matter so that you may be advised of the background. No investigation was conducted by this Division, as will be noted, aside from the interviews by Agent Green with Senator Morris and Mr. Lucas, which interviews were conducted upon the specific instructions of former Assistant Attorney General Dodds.

In accordance with the suggestion of Senator Morris, I have caused Agent Green to be interviewed by his Agent in Charge at Omaha. Agent Green states that he arrived at McCook, Nebraska at

Mr. Stanley.

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7/3/34

7:45 A.M., May 8, 1934; that he left the same day for Washington, D. C., at 11 P.M.; that he registered at the Keystone Hotel at McCook, Nebraska and contacted Senator Morris in the Hotel, interviewing him on the messanine floor, and no other person was present during the interview, which lasted one hour. Agent Green states that he remained in his room the greater part of the day to avoid meeting other persons; as Senator Morris had intimated that he had been sent there to investigate him. Agent Green states that Cordell is well known to him and was not contacted by him in any manner, nor did Green go to his office at any time or cause any other person to go there for any purpose. Green states the only person he spoke to at McCook was Senator Morris and no other person whatsoever.

I might suggest that the basic facts indicated in the foregoing be transmitted to Senator Morris, as it appears highly improbable that Agent Green was in any manner connected with any plot to steal any private documents belonging to the Senator.

The letter from Senator Morris, together with the enclosure, is returned attached hereto.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Enclosure 375739.

FROM
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
TO
OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

Mr. Nathan	_____
Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Baughman	_____
Chief Clerk	_____
Mr. Coffey	_____
Mr. Cowley	_____
Mr. Edwards	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Keith	_____
Mr. Lester	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____

The Attorney General	_____
The Solicitor General	_____
Assistant Attorney General Sweeney	_____
Assistant Attorney General Sizeman	_____
Assistant Attorney General Keenan	_____
Assistant Attorney General Rogers	_____
Assistant Attorney General Blair	_____
Assistant Solicitor General	_____
Mr. Tamm, Administrative Assistant	_____
Mr. Tamm, Director of Investigation	_____
Mr. Bailey, Assistant Director	_____
Mr. Bates, Director, Bureau of Prisons	_____
Mr. Baroni	_____
Mr. McGrath	_____
Mr. Neaseles	_____
Mr. Holcroft	_____
Mr. Gardner, General Agent and Chief Clerk	_____
Mr. Glendon	_____
Mr. Bombardier, Appointment Clerk	_____
Mr. Moore, Mail and Files	_____
Mr. Caldwell	_____
Miss Howard	_____
Mrs. Ende	_____
Mr. Boyd	_____
Miss Thomas	_____

RECORDED

JUL 26 1934

56-158-7	
EXAMINE INVESTIGATION	
JUL 25 1934 P.M.	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
TAMM	FILE

July 23, 1934.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Pursuant to your instructions, Special Agent J. R. Green of the Omaha Office reported to Washington this morning and I interviewed him relative to the charges made by Senator G. W. Norris in a letter addressed to the Honorable John F. Cordell of McCook, Nebraska under date of June 25, 1934.

Agent Green states that he has refreshed his memory as to the date of his interview with Senator Norris at McCook, Nebraska by referring to his administrative file and knows that he interviewed Senator Norris at McCook, Nebraska on May 8, 1934. Agent Green states that he arrived at McCook, Nebraska on the morning of May 8, 1934 and registered at the Keystone Hotel although he knew that he would leave town that evening. Agent Green registered at the hotel in order to avoid meeting in McCook, Nebraska, where he has a number of personal acquaintances, anyone who was personally known to him. At this time Senator Norris was also registered at the Keystone Hotel and Agent Green met the Senator as the Senator was leaving the dining room of the hotel. Agent Green identified himself to Senator Norris, explained his mission and requested that the Senator make an appointment with him for an interview on that day. Senator Norris agreed to see Agent Green in "about an hour on the mezzanine floor of the Keystone Hotel".

Agent Green, in accord with his appointment, met Senator Norris on the mezzanine floor of this hotel and in order to identify himself to the Senator, who incidentally had endorsed Green at the time he was seeking an appointment to the position of Special Agent in this Division, Green mentioned to Senator Norris a number of mutual friends and acquaintances including

Agent Green states that he mentioned these names to the Senator with the idea in mind that, if the Senator so desired, he could ascertain Green's reputation, associations and background. Agent Green discussed this matter with Senator Norris for about one hour and upon the termination of the interview, Green returned to his room in the Keystone Hotel, remaining there throughout the day with the exception of the time when he was out of the hotel for luncheon and dinner. Green states that he did not contact any other person in McCook, Nebraska on the occasion of this visit; that he did not even go to the Sheriff's office where he is well known, adding that this is the only time that he has been in McCook, Nebraska that he did not visit the Sheriff's office.

Green emphatically denies that he took any papers from Senator Norris' safe, pointing out that he was not in the office of Senator Norris, if Senator Norris had an office at McCook, was not in Mr. Cordell's office on the occasion

56-158-8

Mem for the Director

-2-

July 23, 1934.

of this visit and has never heard of the Elite Line Transfer Company and was not on the occasion of this visit to McCook in the office of any other transfer company. Agent Green likewise states that he did not employ any person to assist him in this investigation in any manner whatsoever and certainly did not employ anyone to take any papers from any safe. The Division's files corroborate and substantiate Agent Green's statement. Agent Green departed from McCook, Nebraska on May 2, 1931 at 11:00 P.M.

Agent Green stated that he was considerably surprised at the charges made against him by Senator Morris, particularly since Green was recommended for Senator Morris' endorsement by a number of mutual friends and acquaintances. It may be noted that Agent Green served in the Nebraska State Legislature with John P. Cordeau in 1919 and has been personally acquainted with Cordeau since 1913 when Green was Assistant Secretary of the State Senate.

Respectfully,

E. A. Tamm.

145-29

July 23, 1934.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL,
MR. WILLIAM STANLEY

With further reference to my memorandum of July 3, 1934, I am attaching hereto, as of possible interest to you, a copy of a memorandum prepared in the Division concerning an interview with Special Agent J. P. Green, which pertains to the allegation of Senator Morris that Green extracted from Senator Morris' safe certain documents, papers and insurance policies.

When I was advised of Senator Morris' accusations in this matter, I instructed Agent Green to report to Washington in order that I could personally ascertain whether there was any basis in fact for the Senator's accusations.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

Inclosure #32-177.

Mr. Nathan	_____
Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Chief Clerk	_____
Mr. Coffey	_____
Mr. Cowley	_____
Mr. Edwards	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Keith	_____
Mr. Lester	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

56-158-4
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 24 1934
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FILE

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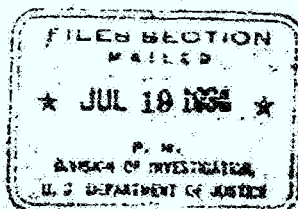
July 26, 1934.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. Tamm

Mr. Stanley's office, telephoned this morning in connection with the Senator Morris matter. He asked me to let him know after Agent Green is interrogated in connection with this matter so that he can write Senator Morris and so advise him. I told [redacted] that Mr. Green will be here Monday morning and that I would call him after we have talked to Mr. Green.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.



Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Cowley
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Egan
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Keith
Mr. Lester
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Tamm

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

